

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants submit the instant preliminary amendment for the examiner for examination new claims 42-60. Claims 42-60 claim the instant invention in a scope which is believed to be allowable in light of the prior art. Claims 42-51 correspond to the claimed subject matter previously allowed by the examiner in the instant application. Claims 52-60 are newly added claims which are broader in scope than those previously indicated allowable.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Jiro Nagaoka et al.

By

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 28,395

Tel: (203) 777-6628

Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: September 7, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on September 7, 2004.


Rachel Piscitelli